## Message Text

**SECRET** 

PAGE 01 STATE 043684 ORIGIN AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 DODE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 PRS-01 USIE-00 OPR-02 IO-13 /074 R

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TO ALL AFRICAN DIPLOMATIC POSTS IMMEDIATE
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SECRETSTATE 043684

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UG, US

SUBJECT: UGANDA SITN REPT NO. 4 AS OF 1100 GMT FEBRUARY 27, 1977

THE FOLLOWING IS THE FOURTH SITUATION REPORT ON UGANDA PREPARED BY THE UGANDA WORKING GROUP IN THE DEPARTMENT. IT IS FOR YOUR INFORMATION ONLY. DO NOT RPT NOT DRAW UPON IT WITHOUT AUTHORIZATION FROM THE DEPARTMENT. SITREP THREE WAS NOT TRANSMITTED BECAUSE IT WAS OVERTAKEN BY EVENTS.

1. ACCORDING TO A KAMPALA RADIO BROADCAST THE SCHEDULED MEETING IN UGANDA BETWEEN PRESIDENT IDI AMIN AND THE AMERICANS LIVING THERE HAS BEEN CHANGED TO WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2, "VENUE AND TIME REMAIN THE SAME." WE ASSUME SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 043684

THIS TO MEAN THAT GATHERING WILL BE HELD AT 0800 AT ENTEBBE AIRPORT.

2. ACTING ON THE BASIS OF THE INFORMATION ON THE CHANGE IN DATE, THE NSC STAFF SUGGESTED THAT PREPARATIONS FOR A CHARTERED COMMERCIAL AIRCRAFT TO EVACUATE AMERICANS FROM UGANDA ON MONDAY BE ENDED. THIS WAS DONE.

3. THE USN TASK FORCE STILL HAS ORDERS TO BE 100 NAUTICAL

MILES OFF THE MOMBASA COAST BY DAWN MONDAY MORNING (2130 EST SUNDAY NIGHT).

- 4. THE KAMPALA RADIO ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE DATE CHANGE SAID THAT IT WAS BEING DONE "AT THE REQUEST OF THE AMERICANS LIVING IN UGANDA"... SOME OF WHOM LIVE 500 MILES AWAY." THE ANNOUNCEMENT SAID AMIN "HAD EXPRESSED GRATITUDE FOR WHAT THE AMERICANS HAVE DONE SO FAR AND THAT HE IS LOOKING FORWARD TO DISCUSSING WITH THEM IN DETAIL THEIR MEMORANDA WHICH HE HAS SO FAR RECEIVED." ("MEMORANDA" COULD REFER TO STATEMENTS AMIN SEEKING FROM AMERICANS WHICH WOULD DESCRIBE CALM SITUATION IN COUNTRY.)
- 5. THE FRG AMBASSADOR, COMMENTING ON THE INITIAL SHIFT OF THE MEETING TO 0800 HOURS AT ENTEBBE, ADMITTED HE HAD NO CONVINCING EXPLANATION, BUT MAINTAINED THAT NOTHING SERIOUS WOULD HAPPEN TO AMERICANS. IN HIS OPINION SITUATION COULD DETERIORATE IF USG MAKES CRITICAL OR ACCUSING STATEMENTS OR IF SOME AMERICANS IN UGANDA WERE TO REACT UNWISELY.
- 6. FRG AMBASSADOR TO KAMPALA ELLERKMANN REPORTED THAT HE BELIEVED PRESIDENT CARTER'S MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT AMIN MIGHT BE REGARDED BY THE LATTER AS "TOO SHORT AND UNFRIENDLY." THEREFORE A SECOND, SOMEWHAT MORE EXPANSIVE ORAL MESSAGE WAS SENT AT 0430 GMT EXPRESSING APPRECIATION SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 043684

FOR AMIN'S ASSURANCES ABOUT THE WELFARE OF AMERICANS IN UGANDA AND OFFERING TO SEND A COMMERCIAL AIRCRAFT TO PICK UP THOSE AMERICANS WISHING TO LEAVE. AMBASSADOR ELLERKMANN IS TO DELIVER THE MESSAGE ORALLY TO PRESIDENT AMIN IN ORDER TO GIVE ELLERKMANN AN OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS THE SITUATION WITH AMIN AND REPORT TO WASHINGTON. THE FRG FOREIGN OFFICE TRANSMITTED THIS ORAL MESSAGE TO KAMPALA AT 0550 GMT FEBRUARY 27.

- 7. SECRETARY VANCE HAS DECIDED NOT TO ACCEPT IMMEDIATELY UN SECRETARY GENERAL WALDHEIM'S OFFER TO SEND UN OFFICIAL FARAH WITH MESSAGE TO AMIN. THE SECRETARY DID SAY IT WOULD BE USEFUL IF WALDHEIM COULD LET IT BE KNOWN THAT HE WAS FOLLOWING THE SITUATION CLOSELY. UN OFFICIAL BUFFUM AGREED TO INFORM WALDHEIM.
- 8. EFFORTS ON FEBRUARY 26 TO COMMUNICATE WITH THE REMAINING MISSIONARY ORGANIZATIONS WERE SUCCESSFUL WITH ALL OF THE CATHOLICS EXCEPT THE WHITE SISTERS, BUT

UNSUCCESSFUL WITH THE PROTESTANTS. THE EFFORTS WILL CONTINUE, BUT PROBABLY CANNOT BE COMPLETED UNTIL MONDAY.
VANCE

NNN

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## Message Attributes

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Subject: UGANDA SITN REPT NO. 4 AS OF 1100 GMT FEBRUARY 27, 1977 THE FOLLOWING IS THE FOURTH SITUATION REPORT ON UG

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